

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are pending in the application. In the Final Office Action of May 18, 2005, the Examiner rejected claims 1-18 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over *Sorge et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,691,281) in view of *Zellweger et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,185,582). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection and addresses the Examiner's disposition below.

Regarding claims 1-6 and 8-16:

Independent claims 1, 8, and 11 have each been amended to clarify that the first cell keeps the original content of the first cell while the original content of the first cell is overridden, and that the second cell keeps the original content of the second cell while the original content of the second cell is overridden. Claims 1, 8, and 11 each claim subject matter relating to overriding the original content of a cell with a user inputted value, and automatically restoring the original content of the cell based on a user input.

This is clearly unlike *Sorge* in view of *Zellweger*, which fails to disclose or even suggest overriding the original content of a cell, wherein the cell keeps the original content while the original content is overridden. *Sorge* teaches a method and system in which spreadsheet data and its formatting can be translated into an HTML document and then translated back again into the spreadsheet. *Sorge*, 4:10-20. For example, *Sorge* teaches that the value and formula for a spreadsheet cell can be translated into an HTML document. *Id.* Since the HTML document includes the formula, the value in the HTML document is updated when one of the variables in the formula changes. *Id.* That is, the value in the HTML document is updated as if it were in the spreadsheet document. The value and formula can then be reinserted from the HTML document back into the spreadsheet. *Id.*

Therefore, *Sorge* merely discusses that calculated values are updated regardless of whether they are in a spreadsheet or in an HTML document. However, the spreadsheet and the HTML document are two distinct documents. Changing a value in a cell of the spreadsheet, for example, does not change the value in a corresponding cell in the HTML document. That cell must be retranslated into HTML and inserted into the HTML document. Likewise, when a value and/or formula from a cell in the HTML document is inserted back into the spreadsheet, that cell must be translated from HTML into a format compatible with the spreadsheet.

Further, when a value and formula are reinserted back into a spreadsheet cell from the HTML document, the value and formula replace the contents of the spreadsheet cell. That is the

original contents of *Sorge*'s spreadsheet cell no longer exist. Similarly, when a value and formula from a spreadsheet cell are translated and inserted into the HTML document, the translated value and formula replace the HTML document's existing value and formula.

Thus, *Sorge* clearly fails to disclose or suggest overriding the original contents of a cell, wherein the cell keeps its original contents, as claimed in claims 1, 8, and 11. Instead, *Sorge* merely teaches that two versions of a document are maintained (a spreadsheet version and an HTML version), and that values from one version can replace values in the other version. Nowhere does *Sorge* suggest that its cells keep their original content while the cells are overridden -- *Sorge*'s cell contents are merely overwritten. Accordingly, *Sorge* fails to disclose or suggest claims 1, 8, and 11.

Zellweger also fails to even discuss overriding the original value of a cell. Therefore, *Sorge* in view of *Zellweger* still fails to disclose or suggest claims 1, 8, and 11.

Claims 2-6, 9-10 and 12-16 depend directly or indirectly from claim 1, 8, or 11 and are therefore allowable for at least the same reasons that claims 1, 8, and 11 are allowable.

Regarding claims 7 and 17:

Independent claims 7 and 17 each claim a plurality of cells each comprising a formula and a last result. A plurality of values are received for the plurality of cells. The values are stored in the last result of the plurality of the cells such that the values are used during recalculation instead of the formulas and such that each of the formulas for the plurality of the cells can be restored independently of other of the plurality of cells.

This is clearly unlike *Sorge* in view of *Zellweger*, which fails to disclose or suggest a cell comprising a formula and a last result, wherein the stored value is used to recalculate the cell instead of the formula. In fact, nowhere do *Sorge* or *Zellweger*, taken singly or in combination, even discuss a cell having a formula and a last result.

As discussed above, *Sorge* teaches maintaining two versions of a spreadsheet document (a spreadsheet version and an HTML version) and replacing the cells in one version with the cells in the other version. *Sorge*, 4:10-20. When a value and formula are inserted into a spreadsheet cell from the HTML document, the value and formula overwrite the original content of the spreadsheet cell.

Unlike claims 7 and 17, nowhere does *Sorge* discuss using a stored value of a cell to recalculate the cell instead of a formula of the cell. Instead, *Sorge* merely teaches replacing the original content of a cell with a value and a formula from another document. Further, *Sorge*

merely teaches that a cell's formula is used when recalculating. Nowhere does *Sorge* suggest using a cell's stored value instead of the cell's formula when recalculating. Therefore, *Sorge* fails to disclose or suggest claims 1 and 17.

Further, *Zellweger* fails to disclose or suggest using a cell's stored value to recalculate the cell instead of the cell's formula. Therefore, *Sorge* in view of *Zellweger* fails to disclose or suggest claims 7 and 17.

Regarding claim 18:

Independent claim 18 claims a cell having a first storage area that stores a formula and a second storage area that stores a numerical value that temporarily overrides a formula so that the numerical value is used instead of the formula during recalculation.

As discussed above, *Sorge* and *Zellweger*, taken singly or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest temporarily overriding the content of a cell. Instead, *Sorge* merely teaches overwriting a spreadsheet cell's contents, including its formula, with a value and formula from an HTML document. When *Sorge*'s spreadsheet cell's original contents are overwritten, they are not temporarily overridden -- in fact, they no longer exist.

Therefore, *Sorge* in view of *Zellweger* fails to disclose or suggest claim 18.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that claims 1-18 are patentable. It is therefore submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

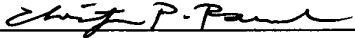
Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on August 18, 2005.

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